

How To Educate a Wife

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"One of the strongest instincts in the man is the hunting instinct. It is immemorially ancient—going back to the primeval times, when everything worth having had to be sought out and captured."

No. 11

It must be clearly borne in mind that both husband and wife are ruled by certain subconscious instincts over which they have little control, because those instincts have been planted in them by a wise Creator, who presumably knows best, so that His nature scheme may work. For this reason they can only control the demonstration of these instincts, but are powerless to alter the instincts themselves.

One of the strongest of these in the man is the hunting instinct. Many a wife makes her greatest mistake in not recognizing this love of the chase in her husband. It is immemorially ancient—going back to the primeval times, when everything worth having had to be sought out and captured.

A wife should never let her husband think that he knows everything about her. She should have reserves. She should preserve a certain amount of mystery. In the apt phrase of America, "It does no harm to keep him guessing."

It is man's nature to lose interest when the chase is over and he has caught that which he has hunted. "There is no use running for a car after you have caught it," runs the saying. And even though a wife has been fortunate enough to secure a husband who continues to love her ardently, even though his hunting has been successful, the instinct is so deep and strongly rooted that it must come up again and again, and when this happens he becomes restless and apt to satisfy the instinct by pursuing some one else.

Therefore the wife should always keep spiritual and mental reserves, and she should make it plain to her husband that there are many unexplored portions of the country of her soul and brain and even heart, so that when his hunting instinct is aroused it will be diverted to her and not to some one else.

Men love mystery—not too much mystery—but still a woman is wise who can and will keep the illusion of uncharted, unexplored depths of being.

Howard Chandler Christy
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